

Message Text

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10

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02

/111 W

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P R 221148Z APR 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9471

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY OLSO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

ALL EC CAPITALS 033

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT ETRD

SUBJECT: GATT COUNCIL/EXPORT INFLATION INSURANCE

REF: (A) GENEVA 2766 (B) STATE 84067

1. EC COMMISSION (ABBOTT) CALLED TO SAY EC WILL BE NONCOMMIT-
TAL AT APRIL 27 COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ESTABLISHING EXPORT
INFLATION INSURANCE WORKING PARTY. THIS CONFIRMS GUESS
MADE BY MARTIN OF UK, AS REPORTED REFTEL (A). ABBOTT SAID
EC POSITION IS LIKELY TO BE OUTRIGHT NEGATIVE IF, AT FIRST
COUNCIL AIRING OF WP PROPOSAL, WE PUSH TOO HARD. HE SAID
THIS WAS LARGELY BECAUSE EUROPEAN VACATIONS OF MID-APRIL HAD
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SIMPLY MADE ANY PRELIMINARY EC MEMBER STATE COORDINATION IM-

POSSIBLE. HE ALSO HELD OUT POSSIBILITY OF TOTALLY ISOLATING
"ONE MEMBER STATE" WITHIN EC IF GIVEN A FEW EXTRA WEEKS.

2. WE NOTED US NOT LINKING WP PROPOSAL TO ANY SPECIFIC
GATT ARTICLE AND HOPED EC COMMISSION COULD USE THAT AS
VEHICLE FOR CONVINCING MEMBER STATES TO GO ALONG. WE
ADDED THAT WE EXPECT SOME SUPPORT FROM OTHERS ON WP
PROPOSAL (NOTE: JAPAN, NORWAY ALREADY INDICATE THEY
WILL SUPPORT) BUT ARE WELL AWARE OF (A) EC COMMISSION'S
EFFORTS WITHIN COMMUNITY TO OPPOSE EXPORT INFLATION INSUR-
ANCE SCHEMES AND (B) DANGERS OF FORCING EC INTO NEGA-
TIVE POSITION ON WP BEFORE THEY HAVE TIME TO THRASH OUT
POSITION INTERNALLY.

3. WE SAID US SEES WP ESTABLISHMENT AS MATTER OF IM-
PORTANCE AND URGES EC MAKE EFFORT TO AGREE TO WP AT
APRIL 27 SESSION. IF THIS PROVES IMPOSSIBLE AND EC RE-
QUESTS TIME TO "REFLECT," WE SAID US PROBABLY COULD
AGREE TO RESUME DISCUSSION OF WP PROPOSAL AT VERY FIRST
COUNCIL FOLLOWING APRIL 27 SESSION.

4. COMMENT: EC COMMISSION IS ON OUR SIDE ON THIS ONE,
AND WE BELIEVE THEIR WARNINGS ABOUT THE DANGERS OF
FORCING A NEGATIVE EC POSITION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT FACE
VALUE. WE HAVE LEFT ABBOTT, LUYTEN UNDER NO ILLUSIONS
ABOUT SERIOUSNESS WHICH US PLACES ON THIS SUBJECT. DALE

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